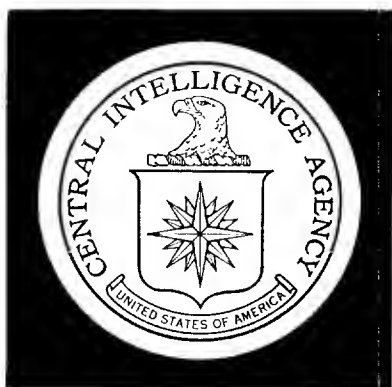


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LEBANON-ISRAEL: Israeli threat

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NOTES

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LEBANON-ISRAEL: ISRAEL HAS THREATENED TO TAKE REPRISALS AGAINST THREE SOUTHERN LEBANESE VILLAGES WHERE COMMANDO OFFICES HAVE RECENTLY REOPENED [REDACTED]

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YASIR ARAFAT HAD ASSURED THE GOVERNMENT THAT ALL COMMANDO OFFICES OUTSIDE BEIRUT WOULD REMAIN CLOSED. THE LEBANESE ARMY HAS PUT 3,000 MEN ON THE BORDER AND IS CONFIDENT THAT IT CAN CONTAIN MOST FEDAYEEN CROSS-BORDER OPERATIONS INVOLVING HEAVY WEAPONS. NEVERTHELESS, LEBANESE AUTHORITIES FEAR THAT ISRAEL MAY NOT BE SATISFIED WITH THESE MEASURES AND MIGHT UNDERTAKE AIR STRIKES. IT IS UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT ISRAEL WOULD TAKE SUCH MEASURES UNLESS FEDAYEEN ACTION RESULTED IN ISRAELI CASUALTIES. ISRAELI ACTION AGAINST LEBANON COULD REDUCE SUPPORT FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS TAKEN A FIRM STAND TOWARD THE COMMANDOS. [REDACTED]

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